

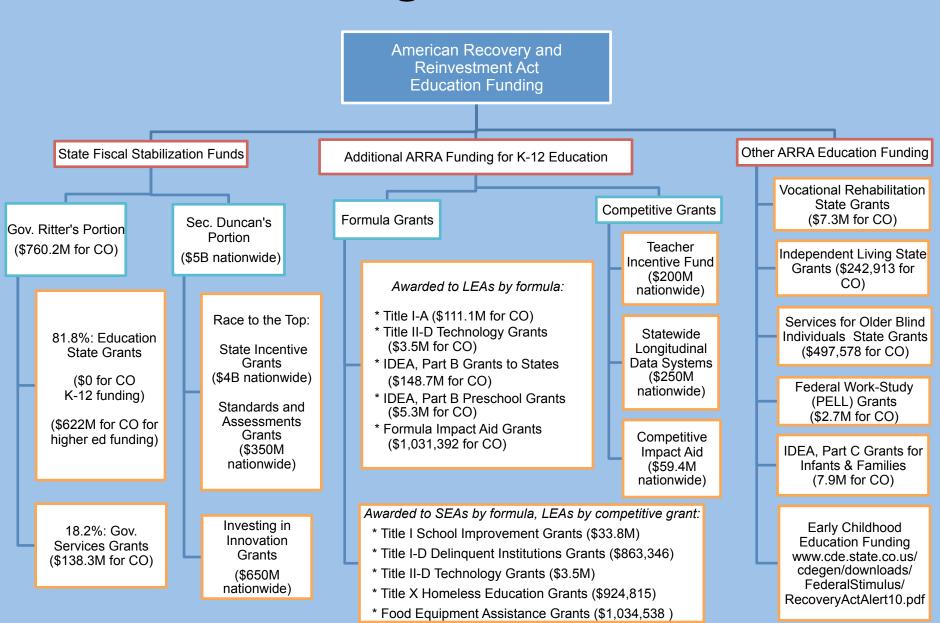


"The overall goals of the ARRA are to stimulate the economy in the short term and invest in education and other essential public services to ensure the long-term economic health of our nation."

4 Principles Guide ARRA Funds

- Spend funds quickly to save and create jobs
- Ensure transparency, reporting and accountability
- Invest one-time ARRA funds thoughtfully to minimize the funding "cliff"
- Improve student achievement through school improvement and reform

ARRA Funding for K-12 Education



Distributing Funds to Schools

- Over \$300 million received by Colorado under existing federal formulas
- Distributions to date:
 - \$58 million as of April 1, 2010
 - Over 1400 FTE saved or created

Key Challenges

- Over 400 reports each quarter
- Changing guidance on compliance
- Tensions between state and federal procedures
- Budget uncertainties
- Significant program reforms
- Monitoring of districts
- GAO monitoring

Education Reform in ARRA

- Changes to existing programs
 - Title I School Improvement Grants
 - IDEA MOE
 - Teacher Incentive Fund
 - Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems
- Newly created programs
 - Investing in Innovation
 - State Fiscal Stabilization Fund
 - Race to the Top

What is Race to the Top?

- > \$4.3 Billion competition among states
 - > \$4 Billion for state reform plans
 - > \$350 Million for common assessments
- Phase 2 target for Colorado is \$175M
- Phase 2 application is due June 1st, 2010.
- Intended to incent and support states that propose a plan to systemically address all four reform areas
- 4 year award period

Why Participate in Race to the Top?

- Significant focus upon improving outcomes for students
- State plan aligns with local priorities
- Opportunity to broadly disseminate best practice
- Access to resources (financial and technical) critical to implementing CO's reform agenda
- Inform national policy

Summary of the R2T Application and Selection Process

In order to apply, states must meet:

Application Requirements

- Signatures of key stakeholders
- Progress to date in four reform areas
- Education funding from FY08-FY09
- Plans for funds
- State level implementation plan
- Reform Condition Criteria of current preparedness level
- Reform Plan Criteria of future reforms
- Agree to report publicly on progress

Eligibility Requirements

- Approved for State Fiscal Stabilization Fund money (ARRA)
- No legal barriers to linking student achievement data to teachers and principals

Applications will be scored based on:

Selection Criteria

- State success factors (125 points)
- Develop and implement high-quality common standards and assessments (70 points)
- Will implement a statewide longitudinal data system to improve instruction (47 points)
- Great Teachers and Leaders (138 points)
- Will turn around struggling schools (50 points)
- General selection criteria (55 points)

Other Priorities

- Absolute: Comprehensive approach
- Competitive: Emphasis on STEM (15 points)
- Invitational: Improving Early Childhood Education
- Invitation: Expansion of Longitudinal Data Systems
- Invitation: P-20 Alignment
- Invitation: School-level reform and innovation conditions

Prepared by: The New Teacher Project

Assurance Area Criteria for R2T Funding

Race to the Top applications will be scored in part on each applicant's response to criteria in four assurance areas:



Standards and assessments

Participation in national efforts to adopt common standards and assessments of student performance, and a plan for instituting them.



Data systems to support instruction

Statewide longitudinal data system that links student and teacher data and makes data available to researchers and the public.



Great teachers and leaders

Differentiation of teachers and principals according to effectiveness, and incorporation of effectiveness data in human capital policies and decisions.



Turning around struggling schools

Authority to intervene with struggling schools and a policy framework that supports high-quality charter schools.

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Phase I Budget Summary

Requested \$377 million total, including:

- \$61 M to support new standards and assessments
- \$77 M to support 21st century data systems
- \$138 M to ensure an effective teacher in every classroom and principal at every school
- \$46 M to dramatically improve performance at our persistently lowest performing schools
- \$6 M to replicate success and invest in innovation

At least 50% must be distributed to participating districts

Race to the Top Phase II

- Budget limited to \$175 million
- Due June 1
- Same criteria
- Focused approach
- Resources

Useful Resources

Colorado Department of Education ARRA Web site:

http://www.cde.state.co.us/scripts/federalstimulus/index.asp

Governor Ritter's Race to the Top Web site:

http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/OIT-2/OIT2/1240228834570